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Celebrating Black History Month

MIRIAM KING
Bradford Times

The BWG Diversity Action Committee set out 50 chairs in the Zima Room of the Bradford Public Library, Feb. 21, for the town's first official Black History Month celebration.

By the time the speeches got underway, they had set out over 100 chairs – and there was still Standing Room Only.

The event was held not so much to celebrate Bradford's own history, but to bring the community together in recognition of the richness of Canada's multicultural society.

"When I grew up in the town, there were no black kids in high school," said Councillor Gary Lamb, noting that history classes emphasized the British Empire, but made little mention of black settlers in Ontario, or Africville in Halifax. It was only over the years that "you have an appreciation of the rest of humanity," he said - but there is an important link in the chain connecting black heritage to Bradford West Gwillimbury: John Graves Simcoe.

Simcoe, who was the first Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada, and who travelled through the area with his wife, Lady Gwillim in the late 18th Century, was responsible for legislation that set the stage for the abolition of slavery.

Some United Empire Loyalists had brought their slaves with them, when they fled the U.S. and came to Upper Canada. At the time, there was no law against "this abhorrent practice," Lamb said. It was the abduction of Chloe Cooley in Kingston – a black slave whose owner sold her to the U.S. - that served as the catalyst. Cooley resisted being sold; she was then kidnapped, beaten, and thrown aboard a boat. Witness testimony of the abduction was brought to John Graves Simcoe, and led to the passage of "an act to prevent further introduction of slaves" to Upper Canada, in 1793.

Continued Page 8

MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

Kids could drum along on Djembes during a Black History Month celebration this week.

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New septic inspection program impacts 500 property owners

MIRIAM KING
Bradford Times

The first phase of the province's mandatory Lake Simcoe Protection Plan's Septic System Maintenance program applied only to properties within 100 metres of the Lake Simcoe Shoreline.

Bradford West Gwillimbury had no properties impacted by the regulations.

But Phase 2, which came into effect on January 1, applies to septic systems within 100 metres of any lake, river, stream, pond or vulnerable area within the Lake Simcoe Watershed – and there are approximately 500 septic systems in BWG that must be inspected by 2021.

Chief Building Official Jack Tosta presented a proposed Septic System Inspection program, which would see approximately 100 systems inspected each year, for "obvious signs of malfunction or failure."

If no sign of failure is observed, the town would issue a certificate, exempting the owner from reinspection for a five-year period. Where signs of failure are present, the town would undertake a "more intrusive" inspection to determine the causes and possible corrective measures.

Tosta proposed a $250 inspection fee per system, if the town carries out the work – a $100 administrative fee, if the homeowner employs a third party to inspect the system.

Councillor Raj Sandhu questioned the fees proposed, noting that only East Gwillimbury has a higher inspection fee, of $490 per property. Innisfil, he noted, is charging only $129.90.

Tosta responded that the fee level was set arbitrarily, and could be revised if it was found that it did not cover costs. Built into the fee are education costs, and software for a new database – and with only 500 properties impacted, there is not the opportunity for efficiencies of scale, as there would be in a municipality with more private septic systems, he said.

"How do we decide which of the 500 (properties) are going to be first?" asked Mayor Rob Keffer.

Tosta replied that the inspection schedule would be based on "risk" - targeting those systems that are 25 years old or older, or for which no records exist, that might be expected to take longer to bring into compliance.

Council supported the proposed program – but not the fee schedule. Mayor Keffer put forward an amendment to defer a decision on the fee until after a public Open House. "There'll be an awful lot of upset people... when they see what some of the comparators are," Keffer said.

The amendment carried. The next step will be a public open house for stakeholders, that will include representation from the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority – which offers a Landowner Environmental Assistance Program grant to upgrade existing septic systems; haulers and designers of septic systems, and the Ontario Onsite Wastewater Association.

The inspection program is mandated by the province, under the Clean Water Act and the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan, aimed at protecting clean drinking water and improving the water quality of Lake Simcoe. Local municipalities are responsible for the administration and enforcement of onsite sewage system regulations.

"It's mandatory," said Tosta, although council "has some discretion over how the program will look."

There will be no need to hire additional staff, he said. The town hired a septic inspector, back in 2014; until now, he has been involved mostly in "verifying the data," identifying properties actually within 100 metres of a waterway.

Demolition

PAUL NOVOSAD/PHOTO

On April 6, 2015, shortly before 4 p.m., a blaze broke out at an older building at 27 John St. East in Bradford. Fire crews from Bradford West Gwillimbury and New Tecumseth were unable to save the 100 year old structure, which had been divided into 7 apartments. The building was gutted, leaving 9 people homeless. For the past 10 months, the empty shell sat vacant - an eyesore, and the target of complaints from neighbours, concerned over mold, rodents, and other wildlife, sheltering in the derelict structure. On Feb. 22, the ruins were finally demolished.

Police Briefs

Serious Collision

Innisfil – At 2:40 p.m. on Feb. 20, an SUV driven by a 40-year-old Barrie man was westbound on Mapleview Drive, approaching 25 Sideroad in Innisfil, when the vehicle collided with a northbound pick-up truck occupied by a 38-year-old Innisfil man and his four-year-old son. Both vehicles left the road. The Barrie male was extricated from the vehicle with serious injuries, and later airlifted to a trauma centre, where he is reported in serious but stable condition. The Innisfil man and his son were treated on the scene and released; police credit use of a child safety seat with protecting the four year old. The roads remained closed for approximately five hours, and the collision is still under investigation. Anyone who witnessed the collision is asked to contact Officer Ashley Fairbarn, 705-436-2141 ext. 2034.

Methadone stolen

Bradford – South Simcoe Police are issuing a public caution after a quantity of methadone was stolen from a car on Feb. 17. A Bradford resident reported that her supply of methadone was taken from her car overnight, while it was parked in her driveway on Gordon Court. The methadone was stored in a grey lock box, with two locks, behind the front seat of her car. The car was unlocked. The methadone is in two red bottles with white lids.

Methadone is a synthetic analgesic drug similar to morphine in its effects, but longer lasting – used as a substitute drug in the treatment of morphine and heroin addiction. The opioid medication reduces withdrawal symptoms in people addicted to heroin or other narcotic drugs, without the "high" associated with drug addiction. It is also a pain reliever, used in detoxification and maintenance programs and is only available from certified pharmacies. Methadone may cause life-threatening heart rhythm disorders, headaches and chest pain, severe dizziness and racing heartbeat. In the wrong hands, it can cause serious bodily harm or death. Anyone with information on this crime is asked to call South Simcoe Police, 905-775-3311, or Crime Stoppers, 1-800-222-TIPS.

Snowblower theft

Innisfil – Around 8 p.m. on Feb. 18, a man walked up to a home on Vicrol Drive in Alcona, removed a snowblower from the carport, and loaded it into his waiting van. The theft was captured on camera by a neighbour and reported to police. The suspect is described as male, while, 5'11" to 6'3" in height (180-190 cm) with a medium build, wearing a black hoodie with a large red logo on the back, with white script above and below the logo and white lettering on the sleeves. He was wearing grey cargo pants and dark sports shoes with a white sole, and beige work gloves. The vehicle is described as a blue 1996-2005 GMC Safari or Chev Astrovan, with steel rims and dark-tinted side windows. A second snowblower was located on the shoulder of 25 Sideroad a short distance away; it is believed that the presence of police in the area scared off the suspect during a second theft attempt. Anyone with information on this theft, or who can identify the suspect, is asked to contact South Simcoe Police or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

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The rates are as of April 21, 2014 and may change without notice. Applicants are subject to health underwriting approval. Female rates are lower.

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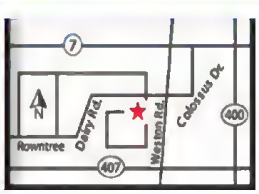

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Opinion

The Bradford Times

Sandy Davies, Group Advertising Director
Brian Rodnick, Regional Editor
Miriam King, Editor: Ext. 512223
miriam.king@sunmedia.ca

Point of View

Public education needed about lasers

Last spring, an Omge medical helicopter en route from Pembroke Regional Hospital to the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario was hit by a green laser originating somewhere near the Champlain Bridge in Ottawa. Soon after, an Air Transat flight reported the plane's cabin being illuminated by a green laser as it flew over Ottawa — at an altitude of 31,000 ft. Around the same time, another craft was struck three times as it neared the airport.

The dangers were and are clear. Laser radiation hitting a cockpit, particularly during landing or takeoff, can distract or impair a pilot.

Most people who use a laser, whether as a pointer for a business presentation, or a rangefinder, or even to scan barcodes, intend it only for benevolent purposes. But as a report by the Ottawa Citizen shows, the number of times lasers have struck aircraft in Canada has been rising steadily. Canada-wide, there were 663 laser strikes directed at aircraft last year — an eight-fold increase since 80 reported in 2008.

The AirLine Pilots Association is rightly concerned, both about passenger safety and the long-term medical effects on pilots of a laser blast. It wants stemer action. While pointing a laser at aircraft is already an offence under the Aeronautics Act (which can include hefty fines and jail time), the pilots want it added to the Criminal Code too. That might help — a bit.

Other options aren't as clear. Getting a handle on who owns which kind of laser device is difficult. Although Health Canada limits sales of lasers above a certain power, lasers are advertised online, at an affordable price, to be shipped in from elsewhere.

Experts are also working on technology to mitigate the effects of a laser strike: goggles and other safeguards that could make it harder to disrupt work in the cockpit. But lasers are also becoming more powerful.

The pilots association wants a more aggressive education program. And this makes most sense. The majority of people who point a laser at a plane or helicopter aren't acting from malice: they are, primarily, curious about whether their laser "toy" can light up a passing aircraft, or reach the stars.

They're motivated by a bit of adventure — and a lot of ignorance about the impact the device might have.

In some ways, the issue is similar to owning a drone: It's about responsible use.

Drones are subject to regulation, but education and common sense also make it clear what you shouldn't do with them. More such education is needed around lasers. These aren't your six-year-old's Lightsaber.

— Postmedia Network

Books, bears and blankets

MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

To celebrate the 119th anniversary of Women's Institutes, on Feb. 19, the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario launched the 'Quincy Books, Bears and Blankets' project, asking members to put together gift packs, including a stuffed animal, toy-sized blanket and comforting children's book, to be handed out by First Responders to children experiencing trauma. On Feb. 4, the Women's Institutes of Bond Head and Tec-We-Gwill, the two remaining WIs in South Simcoe, presented dozens of the gift packages to police, fire and paramedics, in Bradford.

Letters to the Editor

BOWLING FOR KIDS SAKE

To the editor: Big Brothers Big Sisters of York is privileged to have York Regional Police Chief Eric Jolliffe as this year's honorary Chair for the A & B Courier Bowl for Kids Sake 2016.

Chief Jolliffe has issued the Battle of the Badges Challenge to all 911 emergency services in York Region and Bradford West Gwillimbury, and we hope to see Police, Fire and EMS teams out bowling this year. We encourage other community members do the same, and consider challenging other companies, friends, and organizations as well.

This is a chance to be a real kingpin in your community and strike a difference with children across York Region and Bradford West Gwillimbury. A & B Courier Bowl for Kids Sake will be hosted in 5 locations from March 5 to April 9, including Bradford on Sunday, April 3, with the goal of raising community awareness, as well as reaching this year's fundraising target of $130,000.

Bowl for Kids Sake is looking for support from local businesses, residents, friends and families. Consider participating as a bowler, donor or lane sponsor. Teams are made up of 4 to 6 people, and participants are asked to collect pledges to support their team's fundraising efforts.

President and CEO of BBBSY, Sarah Dame expressed the importance and impact Bowl for Kids Sake has on children locally. "It's a way anyone can support Big Brothers Big Sisters vision – that all children achieve success in life. We know not everyone may be able to serve as a mentor for a child, but by participating in the event as a bowler, team captain or sponsor, anyone can help start a child on the right path. Every dollar raised through Bowl for Kids Sake directly funds our mentoring programs in York Region and Bradford West Gwillimbury and helps maintain and sustain our mentoring relationships, increasing kids' chances for success."

To register for Bowl for Kids Sake or to become a sponsor, please call 905-726-2149 ext. 324 or visit *www.bbbsy.ca* for more information.

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF YORK

POSTMEDIA

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THE WINE
Still somewhat of a rarity in Australia, Cab Franc has surged in plantings in recent years, becoming increasingly popular and desired for blends and varietal wines. This vibrant blend combines Cabernet Franc with Cabernet Sauvignon for a rich, fruity wine redolent with cherry, red berry, cassis, spice, and vanilla aromas. The palate is generous with black and red berry flavours, notes of herbs and spice, and firm tannins.

THE REGION
This Australian blend pairs Cab Franc from Murray Darling with Cab Sauv from the Riverland Region. The Murray Darling region experiences warm to hot days, noticeably cooler nights, and receives plenty of sunshine for the grapes to soak up, allowing them to ripen fully each year. The Murray and Darling Rivers, for which the region is named, provide much needed irrigation. The neighbouring Riverland region shares the hot & dry climate, long hours of sunshine, and also benefits from the Murray River, the lifeblood of the area's vineyards.

THE FOOD
Experiment with game meats, various lamb dishes, or black pepper crusted seared tuna steaks. Prime rib, pot roast with root vegetables, or Manchego cheese with rosemary also pair well.

MONTEPULCIANO
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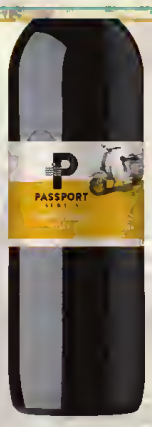


THE WINE
Medium-bodied and deep garnet in colour with gentle aromas of ripe dark fruit, warm oak, and a touch of earth and spice. This fruit-forward red boasts mouth-filling black cherry and dark plum flavours and gentle savoury spice which lingers on the smooth finish.

THE REGION
Affectionately known as "Italy's green heart", Umbria is a lush agricultural area nestled in the centre of the country and is the Italian Peninsula's only land locked region. The Appenine Mountains run through Umbria providing rolling hills which allow for premium sun exposure, and the majority of the region's vineyards are on terraces cut into the hillsides. Umbria's climate is similar to its famous neighbour Tuscany: cold, rainy winters and dry summers with abundant sunshine. The Tiber River flows down from the mountains creating fertile soils and adding a cooling balance to the typically dry weather, making this an ideal location for grape growing.

THE FOOD
Enjoy with Italian favourites such as eggplant lasagna, ragu Bolognese, or rigatoni with sausage, tomato sauce, arugula and parmesan. Or pair with a barley, mushroom, & onion stew, or eggplant sandwich with mozzarella, prosciutto, & basil.

THREE COUNTRY CAB
CALIFORNIA | SOUTH AFRICA | SPAIN

THE WINE
Big, bold, and beautiful – a stunning blend of Cabernet Sauvignons from three powerhouse producers. Look for a bouquet of ripe black fruits, with notes of cocoa, vanilla, and oak. This deep red, full-bodied Cab is firm, dry, and brimming with flavours of blackcurrant, blackberry, blue plum, vanilla, and spice. Notes of black tea, spice, and oak linger on the finish.

THE REGION
California's Sonoma County enjoys a long growing season with sunny, warm, dry days and cool evenings - the ideal combination for grapes to ripen slowly and evenly. Swartland, just north of Cape Town, South Africa, is hot and dry, leading to lower yields, and smaller, more concentrated fruit. Spain is hot and arid, but its elevation creates a workable balance, with temperatures dropping significantly at night. Many growers have adapted to the dry weather by spacing vines further apart to reduce competition for resources, leading to lower yields with higher quality fruit, and more concentrated, intense flavours.

THE FOOD
Pair this big, bold red with hearty, flavourful dishes such as beef and mushroom kabobs, rack of lamb, prime rib roast with root vegetables, or beef tenderloin wrapped in bacon. Also an excellent companion for 2 to 4 year old Canadian cheddar or 70% dark chocolate.

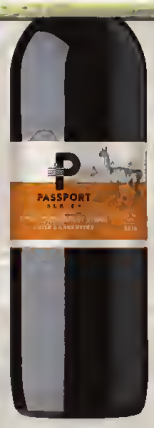
SAUVIGNON BLANC
MUSCAT
CALIFORNIA
LODI

THE WINE
Juicy & fresh, this deliciously aromatic blend is the perfect unity of these popular varietals. Sauvignon Blanc offers citrus and fresh herb elements, while Muscat brings in stone fruit and floral notes. Bright fruit aromas lead into refreshing citrus, peach, and melon flavours with a hint of tropical sweetness and a light, crisp finish.

THE REGION
Located directly east of San Francisco Bay, Lodi is graced with a Mediterranean climate marked by warm days, low humidity, and cool nights. Cool delta breezes help moderate the heat, creating a perfect climate for growing flavourful, fruit-forward grapes. The region receives little rainfall during the growing season, allowing growers more control of crop development through irrigation. Rivers originating in the Sierra Nevada mountains flow throw Lodi, depositing mineral rich soils which contribute complex flavours to area wines.

THE FOOD
Think simple meals and fresh flavours when pairing this California white. Chicken quesadillas, turkey burgers, lightly spiced shrimp skewers, salmon with dill, fresh herb and lemon pasta, and fresh tomato bruschetta would pair perfectly.

PINOT NOIR MERLOT
SYRAH
SOUTH AMERICA
CHILE & ARGENTINA



THE WINE
This South American blend of Pinot Noir, Merlot, & Syrah features vibrant red fruit notes with a touch of oak and spice. Deep ruby in colour, this medium-bodied red has soft, dry tannins, with flavours of plum, cherry, and red berries. Gentle notes of spice, smoky oak, and red berry linger on the finish.

THE REGION
This blend comes from three great South American regions. The Pinot Noir is from Colchuagua Valley in Chile, which enjoys a superb climate, the cooling influence of the Pacific Ocean, and steep slopes of well-drained soil. The Merlot comes from one of Chile's most southern wine regions, Maule Valley, which enjoys intense sunlight, warm days, and much cooler nights than its northern neighbours; this extends the growing season, and helps balance ripeness and acidity in the grapes. The Syrah comes from the other side of the Andes Mountains in Argentina, where desert landscapes and high altitudes create aromatic, intensely flavoured reds.

THE FOOD
Serve with roasted or grilled meats such as steak, veal chops, beef tenderloin or brisket. Meat-based pizza, shepherd's pie, meatloaf, or a Portobello club sandwich are also great matches. Try with cheeses like Asiago, Le Chevre Noir, and Manchego.

thisweekin Bradford West Gwillimbury

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www.townofbwg.com

TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Members of the public are invited to attend all Council, Committee of the Whole and other Committee meetings. Meeting dates, times, and agendas are available from the Town's website at www.townofbwg.com.

For further information or to request a deputation, please contact the Clerk's Division.

Regular Meetings of Council & Committee of the Whole

- Tues. Mar 1 @ 7:00 p.m. - BWG Library & Cultural Centre, 425 Holland St. W., Zima Room

BOARD/COMMITTEE MEETING

Heritage Committee

- Mon. Mar 7 @ 6:30 p.m. – BWG Engineering Services, 305 Barrie St., Boardroom

Accessibility Advisory Committee

- Wed. Mar 9 @ 6:30 p.m. – BWG Engineering Services, 305 Barrie St., Boardroom

Arts and Culture Advisory Committee

- Thurs. Mar 10 @ 6:30 p.m. – BWG Library & Cultural Centre, 425 Holland St. W., Zima Room

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

- **2016-PM02 - Project Manager – Closes on March 9th, 2016**

Please visit www.TownofBWG.com/Careers or call Human Resources at 905-775-5366 for more information.

Events & Activities

Administration: **100 Dissette St, Units 7-8, Bradford**

Notice of Public Meeting

TO CONSIDER A PROPOSED COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN
PURSUANT TO SECTION 28 OF THE
PLANNING ACT, R.S.O 1990, c. P.13, AS AMENDED

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury will be holding a public meeting on **Tuesday, March 15, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Zima Room, Bradford West Gwillimbury Public Library, 425 Holland Street West, Bradford** to consider amendments to the Community Improvement Plan for the lands located in the Bradford downtown core.

THE PURPOSE AND EFFECT of the proposed Community Improvement Plan (CIP) for the Town's downtown core in order to promote private investment and to help achieve the vision and objectives stated in the 2011 Downtown Bradford Revitalization Strategy. A Community Improvement Plan is a tool available to municipalities under the Planning Act to help facilitate revitalization and redevelopment efforts in a defined area. A key map showing the location of the lands is attached.

ANY PERSON may attend the public meeting to make written or verbal representation in support of or in opposition to the proposed Community Improvement Plan. Written submissions regarding the proposed Community Improvement Plan can be made to Paul Pirri, Program Coordinator & Community Improvement Plan Facilitator, Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury Office of Economic Development, P.O. Box 160, Bradford, Ontario, L3Z 2A8, facsimile 905-778-4343, telephone 905-775-5369, ext. 1302 or email at ppirri@townofbwg.com.

IF YOU WISH TO BE NOTIFIED of Council's decision regarding the proposed Community Improvement Plan, you must make a written request to Paul Pirri, Program Coordinator & Community Improvement Plan Facilitator, at the address shown above.

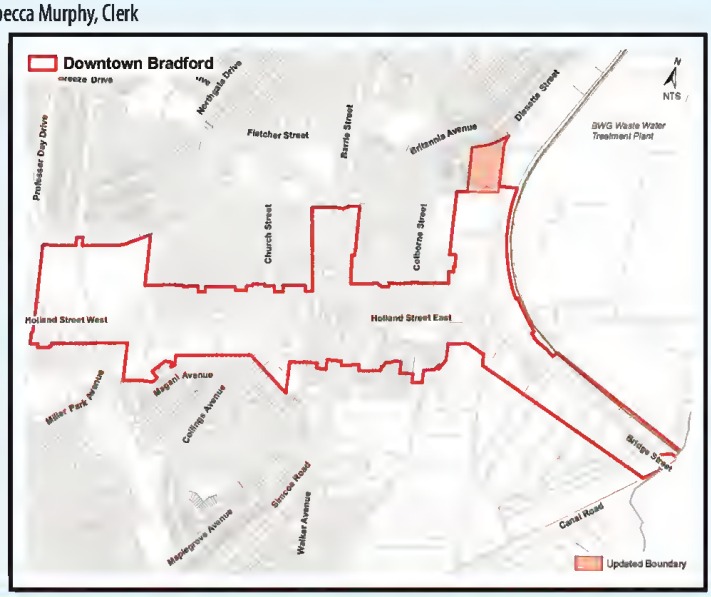
IF A PERSON OR PUBLIC BODY does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury before the proposed Community Improvement Plan is adopted, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury to the Ontario Municipal Board.

IF A PERSON OR PUBLIC BODY does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury before Community Improvement Plan is adopted, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Municipal Board unless, in the opinion of the Board, there are reasonable grounds to add the person or public body as a party.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION regarding the proposed Community Improvement Plan is available for public inspection between 8:30 am to 4:30 pm weekdays at the Planning & Development Services Office located at 3541 Line 11, Bradford West Gwillimbury and on the Town's Office Economic Development website www.gotobwg.ca.

Dated at the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury this 18th day of February, 2016.

Rebecca Murphy, Clerk



Notice of Public Meeting

TO CONSIDER A PROPOSED COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN
PURSUANT TO SECTION 28 OF THE
PLANNING ACT, R.S.O 1990, c. P.13, AS AMENDED

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury will be holding a public meeting on **Tuesday, March 15, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Zima Room, Bradford West Gwillimbury Public Library, 425 Holland Street West, Bradford** to consider amendments to the Community Improvement Plan for the Artesian and Reagens Industrial Parks.

THE PURPOSE AND EFFECT of the proposed Community Improvement Plan is to establish a planning and economic development framework that may include improvement projects and financial incentive programs designed to stimulate private sector investment considered necessary to meet identified community improvement objectives. The Artesian and Reagens Industrial Parks represent important employment districts within the Town, the comprehensive development of which represents an important investment in existing infrastructure and economic growth. The proposed amended Community Improvement Plan allows for a program of financial assistance to eligible registered owners and tenants of lands and buildings within the Community Improvement Area in developing their properties, where such development meets the objectives of the Community Improvement Plan. Key maps showing the location of the lands are attached.

ANY PERSON may attend the public meeting to make written or verbal representation in support of or in opposition to the proposed Community Improvement Plan. Written submissions regarding the proposed Community Improvement Plan can be made to Paul Pirri, Program Coordinator & Community Improvement Plan Facilitator, Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury Office of Economic Development, P.O. Box 160, Bradford, Ontario, L3Z 2A8, facsimile 905-778-4343, telephone 905-775-5369, ext. 1302 or email at ppirri@townofbwg.com.

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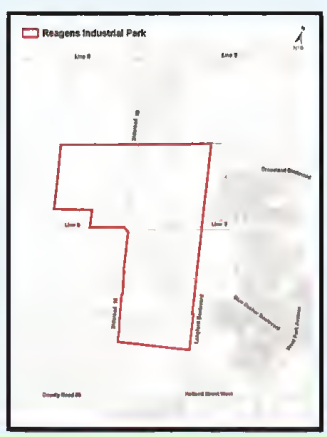

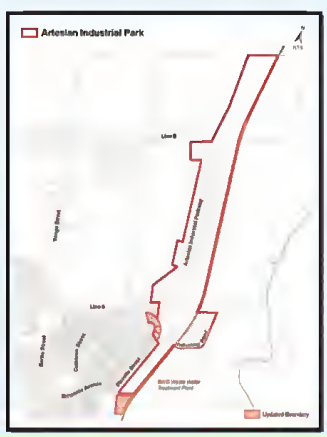

BWG Leisure Centre: **471 West Park Ave.** | Phone: **905-775-7529**

Important Notice
2016 Property Tax Bills

The 2016 Interim property tax bills will be printed and mailed out commencing the last week of January 2016. Tax bills were issued for each of the following tax classes; residential, multi-residential, commercial, industrial, pipeline, farm and managed forests. The due dates are the same for all tax classes; first instalment due **February 25, 2016** and second instalment due **April 27, 2016**. Please note these bills represent no more than 50% of the previous year's annualized taxes levied.

Please note that the tax bills were printed prior to the February 1, 2016 penalty and interest being charged and only reflect payments received up to January 22, 2016. Any arrears/past due amounts included on the first installment stub of this tax billing will be subject to additional interest if not paid by January 31, 2016.

Payment Options: Please see the back of tax bill for a list of accepted payment methods or visit our website at www.townofbwg.com.

Effective January 2016: A Payment Transfer Fee in the amount of $10.00 will apply to correct each customer payment that was directed to the wrong account.

The Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) is responsible to value and classify your property. MPAC is a not-for-profit corporation funded by all Ontario municipalities. If you have any questions regarding your property assessment please contact MPAC at 1-866-296-6722, by email at enquiry@mpac.ca or visit their website at www.mpac.ca.

Please note if you feel your property assessed value or classification is not correct, you may file a Request for Reconsideration (RfR) with MPAC. The deadline to file your RfR for the 2016 tax year is March 31, 2016.

Owners of newly constructed homes may receive a tax bill for the value of the vacant lot only, until the home is assessed. Once the house is assessed, you will receive a supplementary/omitted tax bill for the taxes on the value of your home. This process may take up to 3 years and the taxes due will be retroactive to your date of occupancy. For an estimate of your annual taxes, multiply the purchase price of your home by the current tax rate (2015 tax rate was 0.01119161) or contact the Finance Department at 905-775-5303.

Failure to receive a tax bill does not excuse the property owner from the responsibility for payment, nor relieve him/her from liability of penalty for late payment.

BWG Leisure Centre: **471 West Park Ave.** | Phone: **905-775-7529**

MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

Spoken Word Artist Timaaj Hassen received a standing ovation at the Black History Month celebration.

MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

Cole, 2, and Ella, 3, weren't sure if they should play or ride the Djembe drum.

Celebrating Black History Month

Continued From Page 1

Although Simcoe bowed to pressure from wealthy landowners, and did not directly abolish slavery, and although persons born to a slave were still deemed to be slaves for 25 years, no new slaves could be brought into the jurisdiction once the law was enacted.

"Chloe was the catalyst for the man who made the first step," Lamb said, calling Simcoe "somebody who got the ball rolling" - eventually leading to the abolition of slavery throughout the British Empire in 1833.

Students read the words of Martin Luther King Jr., and black residents shared their experiences, at Sunday's event. Timaaj Hassen, spoken word artist, urged residents to step off "the conveyor belt of inherent racism" and proclaim Black History Month as "Black Future Month in Canada." She received a standing ovation for her spoken poem, "To a nappy-haired girl" - when she asked, "If you loved yourself, do you know how many corporations would go out of business?" The afternoon wrapped up with a drumming demonstration by Shaw Percussion and Rhythmic By Nature, that invited everyone to learn the language of the African "Djembe" drum, in peace and celebration.

At one point, people stood up and danced – combining South Asian, African, Latino, and North American dance traditions, in a celebration of heritage.

MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

From right, BWG Councillor Peter Dykie Jr., South Simcoe Police Chief Rick Beazley, James McNeill and Adriana McNeill-Salinas, with Djembe drums.

Council concerned over RBC closure

BRADFORD TIMES STAFF

Councillor Peter Dykie Jr. asked for a staff report on the planned closure of the RBC branch in Downtown Bradford, this June.

The bank "does play a very key economic role in our community," said Councillor Dykie in the Feb. 16 meeting of council, asking staff to find options that might persuade RBC to reconsider.

"I feel bad for all the residents on Centre Street," the councillor said, and for seniors who might not be comfortable using an ATM. Dykie noted that prior to the construction of the branch at the west end of town, he had been reassured that the downtown branch would remain open, and that "there's enough business for two branches... I just hope we get a report on that. It's very important to the community."

"We need background material, the Deputy Mayor and I, so we can present our case," agreed Mayor Rob Keffer.

"We do a lot of business with RBC. The business the Town does alone with the RBC should keep that branch open," said Councillor Gary Lamb, noting that the Cookstown Branch of RBC is also slated for closure, with clients are being directed to the Alliston branch.

MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

The Danube Seniors Leisure Centre offers fun activities and events every month. Here, Bill and Olga Bishop dressed up for the Summer in January luncheon at the Centre on Jan. 23. The Goldenaires Choir entertained.

Coming up at the Danube Centre

The Danube Seniors Leisure Centre, located at 715 Simcoe Rd. in Bradford, will hold its **annual general meeting** on March 3, at 7 p.m. There are several board positions vacant, and members are urged to think about serving on the Executive, to help run this wonderful community facility, that has been serving the area's seniors for 18 years.

Coming up:

. **Seniors' Health Seminar** on Thursday, March 10 starting at 11 a.m. Stephanie Camponi, outreach counsellor with York Region Addiction Services will present "Understanding the Gambling Industry – How the games work, how gambling targets seniors, and the odds of winning." The seminar will be followed by lunch, only $6 for members, $7 for non-members. All welcome.

Lenten Service series

Once again the Bradford Ministerial Association is sponsoring its annual Lenten Series. On five consecutive Wednesday nights during Lent, five churches in the community will take turns hosting a Lenten service in their own tradition, welcoming a guest speaker from another church. It's an opportunity for Christians and those interested in the Christian faith to experience the richness of diversity of Christianity in the community.

Coming up:

. Weds., March 2 at St. Catherine of Alexandria Catholic Church (Byzantine Rite) – speaker Rev. Kent Nielsen, of Green Valley Alliance Church, 7:30 p.m.

. Weds., March 9 at Bradford United Church – speaker is Father Rob Sweet, Interim Priest at Trinity Anglican Church, 7:30 p.m.

. Weds., March 16 at Holy Martyrs of Japan Catholic Church – speaker is Rev. Eton Grant, of Greater Life Community Church, 8 p.m.

All are welcome to attend.

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News Briefs

World Day of Prayer

The 2016 World Day of Prayer will take place Friday, March 4 at 10:30 a.m. at Bradford United Church, 66 Barrie St. This year's theme is "Receive Children – Receive Me", prepared by the women of Cuba. All are invited to attend; refreshments will be served following the service. For more information, contact Bradford United Church at 905-775-7268.

International Women's Day

Coming up at the PCCB: International Women's Day, on Saturday, March 5. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., for an evening that includes dinner of salad, chicken breast, potatoes, rice, vegetables and dessert; music by DJ John Paul Perdiz, and a fashion show, featuring fashions from The Pink Closet, hair and make-up by Victoria Bourque Beauty Boutique. Tickets are $30 for adults, $15 for children 7 to 12 for this ladies-only event – available from Cristina at 905-252-1859, Aldina Lapa 905-775-4938 or any committee member.

Come to the Soul Cafe

Have you asked yourself, is this all there is? Why am I here? What is my purpose in life? If the answer is 'yes', then come to the Soul Café to be connected to like-minded people, seeking to make sense of a chaotic world. Soul Café will take place at Coffee Culture Café & Eatery in Bradford on Thursday, Feb. 25 at 7 p.m. - organized by Rev. Diane Knowles, Bond Head United Church. Bring your ideas, thoughts, doubts and questions, and join the discussion. Discover how you can grow and develop into the person you were meant to be.

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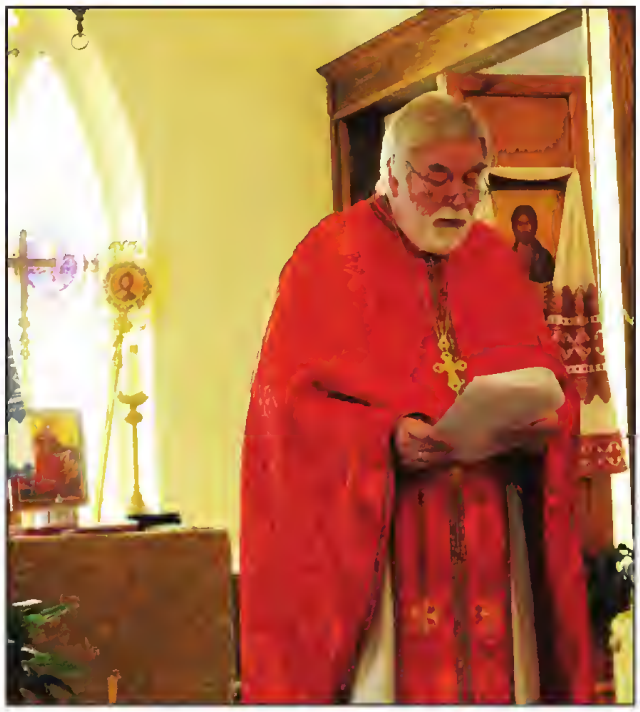
In memory of Rev. Featherstone Lake Osler



MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

Monsignor Conrad Dachuck leads a memorial liturgy for Rev. Canon Featherstone Osler on the anniversary of Osler's death, at St. Catherine of Alexandria Catholic Church in Bond Head.

MIRIAM KING
Bradford Times

Monsignor Conrad Dachuck has always felt that the parish of St. Catherine of Alexandria Catholic Church (Byzantine Rite) should honour Rev. Canon Featherstone Osler – an Anglican minister.

That's because Featherstone Lake Osler was the founder of Trinity Anglican Parish in New Tecumseth and West Gwillimbury, and the historic church in Bond Head that now houses St. Catherine's. In fact, the original bell still hangs in the bell tower, and the church continues to house a faith community, 121 years after Osler's death.

On Feb. 6, Father Dachuck held a memorial service and prayers for the repose of Rev. Canon Featherstone Osler and wife Ellen.

The couple left the comfort of England to come to Upper Canada in 1837 and minister to the pioneers. A "saddlebag preacher," Rev. Canon Osler covered hundreds of miles of wilderness in his sparsely populated parish, to bring the word of God to the settlers. He later served in the Ancaster area.

When Rev. Osler passed away in 1895 at the age of 90, his obituary noted that he had served 28 congregations, oversaw the building of eight churches, and established the first Sunday school – and the first "Sunday School Treat" - in Upper Canada.

Osler not only opened grammar schools and a seminary in the Bond Head area, he instilled in his own children "such a sense of service," Father Dachuck said, that they in turn contributed greatly to society – including leading lawyer and crown prosecutor Britton Bath Osler, Judge Featherstone Osler Jr., banker and philanthropist Sir Edmund Boyd Osler, and the father of modern Canadian medicine, Sir William Osler.

Canon Osler "gave them such a wonderful example of untiring service... He lived a very useful life," said Fr. Dachuck, leading prayers in the historic church "for all the clergy and the people... and civil authorities. May they be strengthened in every good deed" - and in particular for Rev. Osler and wife Ellen, "for their blessed memory.

"Give them rest in a place of light, a place of just repose."

Greatest events in Canadian history

Canada's 150th birthday is quickly approaching – now, less than a year away.

To mark the occasion, the Bond Head Women's Institute is planning to suspend their "Vanishing Barns of BWG" calendar series, and instead create a special Bicentennial Calendar, with input from the public.

The 2017 Greatest Events in Canadian History (since 1897) Calendar Competition asks the public to submit a photo or illustration of a key event in Canada's history, with a title, and 150 word description explaining how the event contributed to the formation of Canada.

Winners will have their entry featured in one of the 12 months of the calendar, their name included on the calendar page, and receive one free calendar.

One grand prize winner will be chosen as the front cover of the calendar, and receive five free calendars.

Submitted photos or illustrations should be in digital format, 11.25" wide by 8.75" high, 300 dpi, and free from copyright. Also submit the official Entry Form, which asks for Name, Phone #, email address, and includes a signed and dated waiver allowing the Women's Institute to use the submission for the calendar and promotional purposes.

Entries should be emailed to ***bradfordprintshoppe@bellnet.ca*** by July 1. Winners will be notified no later than July 31.

Contestants are welcome to collaborate on their entries.

What are the events that make you proud to be a Canadian?

Famous people of BWG

The BWG Local History Association will be meeting Saturday, Feb. 27 in the Activity Room of the BWG Leisure Centre, at 2 p.m. - but the scheduled program, "Famous People in Bradford West Gwillimbury," has been POSTPONED. Instead, the meeting will be a "Show & Tell." Members are invited to bring in family mementoes, heirlooms, stories and treasures to share with the public.

CONTACT Community Services | bradford WORKS | EMPLOYMENT ONTARIO

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Focus on water

MIRIAM KING
Bradford Times

Ontario's farmers do more than grow crops and raise livestock. They are also stewards of the land – and increasingly, find themselves responsible for the environmental health of both land and water.

Water was the focus of the AgKnowledge Forum, an annual session organized by local farming associations and Nottawasaga Futures.

Water is needed not only for irrigation, but to wash harvested crops before processing. Soil, dissolved phosphorus and other nutrients in waste wash water have created issues both for the environment, and for farmers.

Speakers at the forum provided an update of a new Water Project undertaken by the Holland Marsh Growers' Association (HMGA), as well as the latest Ministry of Environment requirements.

Charles Lalonde told participants that the HMGA has been investigating a range of technologies for soil removal and wash water treatment. It has been a collaborative effort, involving growers – who have provided test sites and financial support, as well as engineering firms and ministry experts.

"We're all working together," he said, to come up with solutions that will reduce the risk to the environment, while dealing with the challenges posed by the Holland Marsh's unique muck soils.

This is the final year of the multi-year project, "but the most important... It involves implementation," Lalonde said, warning that new "technology requires attention and optimization." The complex systems needed to meet ministry standards require "a Mr. Fix-it on the farms... It takes people on the ground, at the plant, every day," who are experienced in IT, computers, and electrical.

Paul Plotz, Ministry of Environment issues/projects co-ordinator, Barrie cffice, provided background on the issue of nutrient loading in the Lake Simcoe watershed - not just by farming operations, but also by industrial, commercial and residential.

The Ontario government enacted the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan, to reduce phosphorus inputs and improve water quality in Lake Simcoe. The LSPP has been so successful, that there are now plans to extend the regulations to the Great Lakes basin – widening the impact on farming operations, Plotz acknowledged. The goal is to ensure that all wastewater, whether from treatment plants or vegetable processing operations, is treated before being discharged into the environment.

Plotz described a vegetable processing plant in the Bradford area that in 2010 was discharging orange water. Testing discovered "pretty serious loading of nutrients" in the water, which triggered a review of operations by the MOE.

Untreated wash water was found to be high in suspended solids, organic matter, biological oxygen demand (BOD), and nutrients, including nitrogen, potassium, and phosphorus – on occasion, "several times higher than levels that can kill aquatic life," Plotz said. Phosphorus levels of up to 19.4 mg/L were measured - when the ministry objective is 0.01 mg/L.

They were "big numbers," one reason why the MOE initially focused on the farming and vegetable processing sectors. One facility was found to be releasing 7.5 kg of phosphorus daily into the Lake Simcoe watershed – more than the amount released by the wastewater treatment plants of Bradford West Gwillimbury and Innisfil combined.

As a result, the province introduced stringent new standards, requiring Environmental Compliance Approvals for surface and some subsurface discharge of washwater. While there was success in reducing Phosphorus inputs into Lake Simcoe, the approach was adversarial.

That approach has now changed, Plotz said, to co-operation. "You are our clients, and we're here to help you solve a problem. That's an important difference.

"In a nutshell, our approach has been not to overwork the solutions," but to promote "simple, cost-effective, easy-to-maintain" options – including the use of lagoons and recycling - and to encourage a voluntary approach to improvements.

As long as there is progress towards compliance with provincial policy and standards, the MOE won't be taking "a heavy-handed approach," he said. "If a facility can show they're moving forward, there's no need for any further action on our behalf."

The muck soil of the Holland Marsh poses a particular challenge, when it comes to wash water. Muck is "really amazing stuff to grow on," said Bridget Visser, communications officer with the HMGA. "Very input-and-labour-intensive. It's also high in yields," especially for root crops, bulk crops and leafy greens. But the soil itself can form a colloidal suspension in water, that is difficult to remove.

"The muck does not settle. That is the crux of the problem," Visser said. "Muck has a tendency to float."

The Holland Marsb Water Project has looked at a range of technologies and options to remove not only large solids, but also the lighter muck and dissolved nutrients from wash water.

Hydrosieving and drum filters were found to be less effective, creating additional steps in the process; geotubes, and the use of flocculants and coagulants in settling ponds were the most effective at removing both solids, and phospborus.

"The goal is to give people a starting point" for implementation, Visser said. "The big challenge is the cost. None of this is going to be free."

MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

Speaker Bridget Visser, at the AgKnowledge Forum held at the Club at Bond Head on Feb. 4.

She noted that environmental costs have traditionally fallen on the farmers. "It's been looked on as the cost of doing business."

"Who bears the cost? The farmers do," said Jamie Reaume, chair of the Water Project. And although farming associations like HMGA are looking for the most cost-efficient methods, and some means of cost recovery, farmers "will bear the cost for now, because that's what the consumer wants.... There is no return on investment in environment. We're getting hit on so many levels."

Extending stringent water protection regulations to the Great Lakes and tributaries will mean that thousands of additional farming operations will be impacted, he said.

Ian Smith, of Smith Gardens in Keswick, provided a case study. Smith Gardens produces carrots, onions, beets and parsnips on muck soils – and initially, Smith said, the Ministry of Environment took a combative stance regarding wash water discharge. "It was a mystery what we were supposed to do, and where we could go for help."

Through trial and error, the farm discovered "muck doesn't settle out of water. We have to settle the water out of muck," resulting in the construction of an extensive treatment system to extract debris, dirt and nutrients.

The system dewaters the washwater, channeling it into outdoor aerating holding ponds to reduce biological oxygen demand, and then bioreactors before it is treated, indoors, using coagulants, settling tanks, flocculants and filtration.

The result is "remarkably clean water" tbat can be reused, but, Smith said, "This is an expensive process. It's not cheap and it's not easy."

The system also takes up "a lot of real estate," measuring 30' by 60', and has required the farm to hire dedicated staff to monitor and operate. The cost? Two million dollars.

Smith told the forum that he has seen no return on that investment. "It's driven up costs. It's cost us clients... We've gone from being vegetable producers to being producers of clean water."

Smith added, "There is considerable cost. It's one family farm. It's a big chunk for us to bite off." As a fourth generation farmer, he accepts that farmers are stewards of the land. "We do want to protect it, but at some point, you do put a farm out of business."

It's a party at Canada Blooms

Canada Blooms – Canada's biggest indoor flower and garden festival – returns to the Enercare Centre in Toronto, March 11-20, and celebrates its 20th anniversary. The theme is, "It's a Party" - featuring fantasy gardens to stretch the imagination, celebrate life and all things garden-related, created by expert designers, architects, builders and floral "superstars."

Floral Alley, designed and built by six professional floral designers focussing on the Seasons of Life, will feature fresh blooms that change daily, and visitors can attend over 100 hours of gardening and floral advice from the likes of Frankie Flowers and Mark Cullen. Also back for another year: The Plant and Product Showcase, featuring equipment, innovative products and the new plant varieties of 2016. For more information or tickets, visit *canadabloom*s.ca, or see CanadaBlooms on Facebook. Canada Blooms has been named one of Ontario's Top 100 Events.

RSVP for the Central Ontario Ag Conference

The 2016 Central Ontario Agricultural Conference will take place March 3 and 4 at the Automotive Building, Georgian College (Barrie Campus). Farmers are invited to attend, to access up-to-date farm business information, resources and expert advice, in over 40 scheduled sessions.

March 3 is Livestock Day. Highlights include trade expert Peter Clark on 'Getting Ready for the Trans-Pacific Partnership', for Dairy farmers; the Dairy Stockmanship Program; Sheep specialist Delma Kennedy on Choosing the Right Genetics and Keeping the Most Important Records; and Dan Ferguson of the Beef Farmers of Ontario, on Anti-microbial Resistance and Effects on Antibiotic Use in the Beef Industry.

On March 4, the focus is on Crops, Farm Fresh, Organic, and the Equine Program – including an "Agronomy Cage Match" with Peter Johnston, Greg Stewart and Henry Olechowski; The Dorito Effect with author and journalist Mark Schatzker; Market Trends and Culinary Makeover; and Equine-assisted experiential learning, with Terry Bowhey of Blue Heron Stables.

A complete list of topics and sessions is available online at *www.CentralOntarioAgConference.ca* – along with information on registration, and "early bird" discounts.

In addition to the special sessions, there will be presentations on Energy Cost Reduction strategies with Hydro One and OMAFRA, and Source Water Protection 101, on both days, as well as "Practical Green Farm Ideas." For more information call 705-726-9300 ext. 1224.

Seven swans a swimming

PETER WUKASCH
Special to the Bradford Times

Swans have certainly claimed their place both in folklore and in the ecosystem of Ontario.

Of the seven species of swans found throughout the world, three are found in our own province. They are the Arctic-breeding Tundra Swan, the introduced (from Europe) Mute Swan, also known as the Queen's Swan; and the Trumpeter Swan, which has returned from the edge of extinction.

All three share similar features – dazzling white plumage, black beaks, long necks, huge webbed feet, and young that look as if they fell in a dusthin, because of their dusty grey feathers (remember the Ugly Duckling?).

The Eurasian Whooper Swan and smaller Bewick's Swan, accidental visitors to Canada, look very similar – but in the Southern Hemisphere, swans are very different in appearance. The magnificent Black Swan of Australia is a shimmering black, and the black-necked Swan of South America has a black neck on an otherwise white body.

Early in Spring, hundreds of Tundra Swans, yodeling melodiously, gather at places like Long Point on their northward journey to Arctic marshes. In the Fall, they return, most to the salt hays of the Carolinas, but many to Long Point and other favoured marshes in Southwestern Ontario.

Some even join other waterfowl in fields near us, in Spring, to feed on leftover onion bulbs and other "salady" items. Surprisingly, some were even seen a month ago on Lake Simcoe, during our Christmas Bird Count. If you spot a swan with a long, erect neck, and a black beak with a small yellow spot on the side, you've seen a Tundra Swan.

The Mute Swan, with its long neck held in an "S" shape, and black and orange knobbed beak, was introduced or escaped from captivity. This is the bird featured in The Ugly Duckling, the ballet Swan Lake, and in the Greek myth of Leda and the Swan. Many parks in Europe are home to this elegant bird, but here in North America, they are often considered pests, because they can be very aggressive towards other waterfowl and even humans during nesting season. There is even an effort in some areas to cull flocks of these birds, which are most easily seen along the Lake Ontario shoreline.

Finally, the Trumpeter Swan is a great success story in the restoration of a species that was nearing extinction 60 years ago. Originally found throughout the northern U.S. And Canada, its range became limited to a few lakes in Montana and Alaska. Birds were raised in captivity and eventually released into parts of their former range. Especially helpful was the work of a local resident, Harry Lumsden, who made a special effort to raise these birds.

It is not unusual to spot Trumpeter Swans in large marshes or pons throughout the Great Lakes Region, including Bradford, incubating eggs on their nest mounds or on muskrat lodges. Their deep, trumpeting sounds are often heard before the birds are seen, and their larger size and orange "lips" (a distinctive mark on the edge of their beaks) distinguish them from the Tundra and Mute swans.

As spring gets closer, usually by the middle of March, you are most likely to see all three species of these magnificent birds. They may also be seen in winter, if there are ice-free areas on Lake Simcoe – another of our avian neighbours, worth looking for.

Adopt a gentle bee

Kettleby - Pathways to Perennials is inviting gardeners to "Adopt Gentle Bees for your Garden."

The Mason bee – Osmia lignaria – is related to the European honey bee, but doesn't create a hive or swarm. An effective pollinator, each Mason Bee can pollinate up to 2000 blossoms per day, making it especially useful for orchard growers.

Pathways to Perennials has created nesting houses, that can be placed in home gardens to attract and encourage native bees, like Osmia, and the Leafcutter bee.

Leafcutter bees are also important pollinators of wildflowers, fruits and vegetables. When ready to line its nest, it will cut a crescent or nearly circular hole in a leaf, and use it to make a cigar-shaped nest. The holes don't damage the plant – and the gentle bees benefit the garden.

Seventy-five percent of food crops require pollination – but honeybee numbers have been declining due to a number of factors, including mites, viruses, and potentially, neonicotinoid pesticide use. Mason and Leafcutter bees provide an eco-friendly solution to honeybee losses.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Adopt-a-bee kit, available from Pathways to Perennials in Kettleby, Ont. on Jan. 7, 2015.

Pathways to Perennials is now offering the Adopt a Bee kit, with a crib to hatch the Mason bee and Leafcutter bee cocoons, a safe house for protection from predators and inclement weather, and a bundle of reeds for future Leafcutter bee nests. Quantities of the kits are limited. Call 905-939-8680 to order. For more information or to attend an Adopt-a-Bee Workshop, contact *lorraine@pathwaystoperennials.com* or visit *www.pathwaystoperennials.com.*

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Women of the Outdoors, at the Toronto Sportsmen's Show

MIRIAM KING
Bradford Times

The Toronto Sportsmen's Show, coming up March 16-20 at the International Centre, is still pretty much about huntin', fishin' and shootin', with an emphasis on "Sports*men*."

But there is an increasing focus on "Women of the Outdoors," and it's largely due to Amanda Lynn Mayhew.

Mayhew, Cabela Pro Staff, is quickly becoming the face of hunting education for women and children, in Ontario. She has made a lifelong career of encouraging, educating and promoting both fitness for hunters, and respect for "our hunting heritage" - a heritage she has been steeped in, since childhood.

Mayhew grew up in Manitouwadge, a northern community near Thunder Bay, north of Lake Superior. From an early age, she learned to fish and hunt with her family.

"Everything I know is from my dad," she says.

There were "a few bumpy years," after Mayhew moved away from home. She was diagnosed with Graves' disease, underwent radiation therapy and was put on a regimen of pills, then left a disastrous marriage, to raise her kids on her own.

It was hard, but she returned to her roots in Manitouwadge – and put her life back together. "I flushed my pills down the toilet, got a Total Fitness gym... I got my life and my body back on track."

Mayhew did more. Fed up with most fitness magazines, which were "all advertising," she began collecting inspirational stories, and started her own magazine in 2002. Published 12 times a year, ad-free, "I printed them and sold them from my house."

At the time, she was almost alone in promoting fitness for hunters.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Amanda Lynn Mayhew, Cabela Pro Staff.

"To be able to be out in the bush myself, I had to be fit," Mayhew explains. "Now, everyone's doing it." She used her website and social media to connect with readers, was spotted by Outdoor Life Magazine – and in 2010-11, was asked to be a part of a "Women of the Outdoors" panel, to help educate and promote hunting for women and children.

It was a perfect fit for the mother of three boys, who has always been passionate about hunting. "My kids all knew how to shoot, how to hunt, how to clean guns," she says. The opportunity to share that awareness, understanding, and appreciation was irresistible, and led her to found the Ontario Women's Hunting Association (OWHA), and step up her involvement in Sportsmen's Shows.

2016 "has been the biggest year of my life, in regards to my career," Mayhew says. She will once again be the official Ambassador of the Toronto Sportsmen's Show, and emcee of the Great Outdoor Stage, "introducing the people who are coming up on stage, getting people excited."

She will host two booths, near the stage – one representing the OWHA, and the other "just me," highlighting her role as part of the Cabela Team, and her own love of both hunting and country music, with special guests that include country singer Ty Baynton.

And she will moderate this year's Women of the Outdoors panel – 2:30 p.m. on March 16, and 3:30 p.m., March 17 – featuring panelists that include Bradford's Shannon Bromley, of Bromley Archery.

So, what does hunting mean to Mayhew? Tradition, for one. Her firearms include a rifle used by her grandfather, that over his hunting career harvested 100 moose.

It puts food in the freezer and on the table. "I raised my children: if you killed it, you're going to eat it," she says.

And hunting has also meant time - time spent with her dad, her children, her friends. "I hunt every chance I get."

Mayhew acknowledges that there are some negative attitudes toward hunting. "I have no problem if you're against hunting, if that's what you believe" - but she wants people to be sure of their facts first, and educated in their approach.

And she's quick to make a distinction between what she calls "true hunting," and the competitive trophy hunting that gets a lot of attention in the press.

"I want to teach people the right way of our hunting heritage. It's really important to me," she says. It's not about posing with guns and trophy animals; it's about conservation, and respect.

Mayhew, who always carries and cleans her own catch, says, "You need to be real. *I'm* real" - and eager to meet her fans at the Toronto Sportsmen's Show.

Importance of fitness

Amanda Lynn Mayhew's own experience has underlined the importance of fitness in hunting. Mayhew tells the story of an going hunting in 2014 with the older brother of an uncle, a guide near Kenora. Out in the bush, with no cell service, he had a heart attack on the last day of their hunt together. He fortunately carried nitrous spray, but Mayhew had to help carry the 6'4", 180 lb. man back down the creek to the boat, start the engine and make the 45 minute boat trip to the lodge, an hour away from the nearest hospital in Kenora.

He survived, although he now has a pacemaker implanted – but Mayhew acknowledges that if she hadn't been physically fit, the outcome could have been very different.

News Briefs

Friends of We Care Golf Challenge

It may be February, there may still be snow on the ground - with more to come – but it's never too early to start thinking about Golf! The 2016 Friends of We Care Charity Golf Challenge at Cardinal's Kettle Creek Executive Course will be taking place on Thursday, June 2 this year. For more information, email *brent@charitygolfchallenge.ca* or visit *www.charitygolfchallenge.ca* – and save the date! Friends of We Care raises funds to send kids with disabilities to summer camp.

Make a Difference
RECYCLE

Midget 'A' Bulldogs in all-Ontario semi-finals

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Bradford's Midget "A" Rep team has advanced to the OMHA Semi-Finals, after sweeping Nobleking 3 games to 0 in the Quarterfinal playdown. This Saturday, the Bulldogs begin their All-Ontario Semi-Final Best of 5 series against Quinte West. Game #1 will take place Feb. 27 at the Duncan McDonald Arena, but Game #2 will be played at the BWG Leisure Centre's Green Rink, on Sunday, February 28, at 7:30 p.m. Come out, and cheer on the team! Game #4, if needed, will also take place at the BWG Leisure Centre, Saturday, March 5 at 7:30 p.m.

Community Listings

THURS., FEB. 25

SOUL CAFE: Wondering if this is all there is? Why you are here? Soul Cafe, organized by Rev. Diane Knowles of Bond Head United Church, meets at Coffee Culture Cafe & Eatery in Bradford at 7 p.m. Share ideas, thoughts, doubts and meet like-minded people.

SAT., FEB. 27

BWG LOCAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION MEETS: 2 p.m. at the Leisure Centre's Activity Room. NEW PROGRAM! The originally scheduled "Famous People of BWG" has had to be postponed; instead the Association is hosting a Show & Tell Meeting. Bring your family heirlooms, treasures and finds, to share!

TREASURE SALE: At Bradford United Church, 66 Barrie St. from 8 to 11 a.m. Donated treasures can be yours for a donation to the Church. Or rent a table for only $15, and hold your own "Yard Sale"; call the church at 905-775-7268 to reserve.

EUCHRE PARTY: At Bradford United Church, 66 Barrie St, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Tickets are $10 at the door, for a social afternoon of cards, refreshments and prizes. A fundraiser for the church and its charities.

MEGATHON FOR SOUTHLAKE: The BWG Leisure Centre is once again hosting a MEGATHON for the Southlake Regional Health Centre's Cardiovascular program, 8:30 a.m. to noon. Sign up for one 40 minute class (cycling, walking, yoga/pilates, Bootcamp) for $10, or 4 classes for $30. Childcare available.

FRI., MARCH 4

SPAGHETTI SUPPER: At St. Peter's Anglican Church in Churchill, Innisfil. $10 per person for Spaghetti, Garlic bread, Salad, Tea, Coffee and home-made pies for dessert, 5-7 p.m. All welcome. Wheelchair accessible at the side door; others please use the front entrance.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: Service at Bradford United Church, 66 Barrie St. in Bradford, at 10:30 a.m. Theme is "Receive Children - Receive Me", prepared by the women of Cuba. All welcome. Refreshments to follow.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: At St. James United Church, 2230 Victoria St. West in Stroud, Innisfil, at 2 p.m. All welcome to attend the special service, "Receive Children - Receive Me" prepared by the women of Cuba.

SAT., MARCH 5

SIN & SWOON IN CONCERT: The Innisfil Live Music Club, 2208 Sideroad 25 in Alcona, presents another House Concert. Doors open at 7 p.m., concert begins at 8 p.m. Tickets are $25, available from 705-431-7182 or ginnyc649@hotmail.com

SIMCOE COUNTY BRANCH OGS: Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society meets at 2 p.m. at the Churc of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 79 Ferris Lane, Barrie. "Show 'n Share" - bring your finds, stories and family treasures to share. See www.simcoebogs.com for more.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION: Annual women-only celebration at the Portuguese Cultural Centre of Bradford, 767 Simcoe Rd. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. for dinner, dancing to a DJ, Fashion show featuring The Pink Closet, and more. $30 for adults, $15 for children ages 7-12. For tickets call 905-252-1859 or 905-775-4938.

SUN., MARCH 6

FISH & CHIPS SUPPER: At St. Catherine of Alexandria Catholic Church (Byzantine Rite), 56 Hearn St. in Bond Head. From 5 to 7 p.m. enjoy Fish and chips, coleslaw, rolls, dessert, tea or coffee, only $12 adults, $7 for children ages 7-12, free for kids 6 and under. Tickets at the door - all welcome.

MEETINGS

AL-ANON: Meets Wednesdays, 8 p.m. Holy Martyrs of Japan Church Basement, 167 Essa St. In Bradford. For more information, www.al-anon.alateen.org, wso@al-anon.org or call 1-888-4AL-ANON

SPEAK FOR SUCCESS YORK-SIMCOE TOASTMASTERS: Meets every 2nd, 4th and 5th Tues. of the month, 7-9 p.m. at the BWG Leisure Centre, 471 West Park Ave., upstairs in the Multi-purpose room. All welcome. www.speakforsuccess.org

PARKINSON'S SUPPORT GROUP: Meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month, 1:30 to 3 p.m. at Simcoe Manor in Beeton. For info, contact VON Simcoe County Program co-ordinator Lori Waring at 905-729-0700 or lori.waring@von.ca

CHATS CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP: Meets the 1st and 3rd Thurs. of each month at CHATS in Bradford, 448 Holland St. W., at 10 a.m. For info, contact Marc Terrance, 1-866-677-9048 ext. 6226.

CHATS SENIORS WELLNESS PROGRAM: Meets Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Bradford Legion, 115 Back St. Includes health and wellness education, nutritious lunch, gentle exercise and fun activities. $8. For info, contact Laura, 905-715-1767.

MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

'Larinha' (Little Lara) Miranda lives a world away, in Praia de Mira, Portugal. But Bradford residents stepped up to help five-year-old Larinha, who was diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy just last year. The family doesn't have medical benefits that would cover the cost of their only child's treatment and therapies, so Capelli Lounge hair salon, located at 62 John St. West in Bradford, hosted a "Together for Larinha" Cut-athon, Feb. 21, hoping to help raise the funds the little girl will need. The theme? "Although we are miles apart, we are close at heart."

WANT YOUR EVENT INCLUDED?
SEND US YOUR INFO

Listings are published as space allows each week.

E-mail listings to **barrie.news@sunmedia.ca**. Deadline for inclusion in Thursday's paper is Tuesday at 10 a.m. Listings of 50 words or less must be sent as a text document or in the body of an e-mail.

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www.springdalecrc.net

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Holy Martyrs of Japan Catholic Church
167 Essa St. Bradford 905-775-2065
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Confessions
1/2 hour before Sunday mass.

Trinity Anglican Church
62 Church St., Bradford
(Corner of Church & James St.)
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Sunday School, 10 am
905-775-2200
trinityanglicanchurchbradford.com

Bradford United Church
66 Barrie St.,
905-775-7268
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Sunday School Available
www.bradfordunited.com

St. John's Presbyterian
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905-775-7274
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- Please contact at bradfordislamiccentre@gmail.com for further details

Bradford Community Church
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905-775-9268, located on the S.E. corner of Hwy #11 & Conc. #9
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St. Michael's Ukrainian
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Days 10:00 am
Priest 905-715-0105

Riverdrive Bible Chapel
905-836-1798
#20246 Bathurst (North of Hwy 11)
11:00 am - Family Bible Hour
1:00 pm Afternoon Service
7:30 pm Wed. - Prayer - Bible Study

Holland Marsh Christian Reformed Church
16935 Dufferin St., R.R. #2 Newmarket
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E: hollandmarshcrc@rogers.com

Greater Life Community Church
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Christian Education: 10:30 am
Morning Worship: 11:00 am
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www.greaterlifeonline.com

St. Catherine of Alexandria Catholic Church
(Byzantine Rite)
16 Hearn St. Bond Head, Sunday Eucharist
9:30am (Ukrainian), 11:30am (English)
905-775-8282
info@stcatherineofalexandria.ca

The Baha'i World Faith
905-551-2219
www.Baha'i.org

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Ladies' Spa Night, with Brittany Buck

BRADFORD TIMES STAFF

Customers who signed up for the Ladies' Spa Night at Brittany Buck Hair and Beauty Boutique were in for a relaxing evening of spa services, demonstrations, refreshments, prizes and giveways.

Guests could enjoy an Indian Scalp Massage, make-up and eyelash extension demonstrations, and products in the Rodan & Fields premium grade skin care line - a company new to Canada, said agent Lisa Artuso, that has been wowing customers by providing a premium product at a less-than-premium price.

The Spa Night was a fundraiser for Belinda's Place, a new shelter for homeless single women in York Region. For a $5 donation to the cause, guests received a ballot for a great prize – just one of many giveaways during an evening of women-only fun, at the salon at 74 John St. West.

The event not only raised over $200 for Belinda's Place, it gave customers a great ladies' night out.

Note: Brittany Buck Hair & Beauty Boutique offers gift certificates for Valentine's Day!

MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

Brittany Buck, second from right, welcomes guests to the Ladies' Spa Night at Brittany Buck Hair & Beauty Boutique.

MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

Providing demos of Rodan & Fields skin care products are Kim Lawlor and Lisa Artuso.

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Della - 905-775-4471 ext. 512224 or dwhitlam@postmedia.com

General Help Wanted | General Help Wanted

FARM EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

Progressive beef cow farm in Schomberg area has an opening for an experienced farm equipment operator. Duties include farm maintenance, equipment operation and maintenance. This is a full time position. Replies to 416-892-0664.

Caregiver Help /Home Care | Caregiver Help /Home Care

A CARING LIVE-IN NANNY is needed for 10 month old baby boy. Qualifications: Must have a high school education or equivalent. Must be able to read, write & speak English. Will prefer someone who can speak Ghanaian language (Fante or Twi) but not a must. Rate: $11.25/hr. Please email your resume to: maame_araba1@hotmail.com

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Local Vegetable Farm in York & Durham region requires farm labourers to manually cut fresh vegetables for the 2016 growing season beginning approx. 1st of June to end of October. Must be highly motivated and able to physically endure various weather conditions. Full time, $11.25/ hour. Please submit resume by fax to 905.478.8822. Only those chosen will be contacted for an interview.

Restaurant/Hotel

PORT SOIREE Fine Dining Restaurant in Schomberg is looking for a dishwasher, Tuesday to Saturday, 5-10 pm. $12.00/hr. Please call 905-939-7678

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Obituaries | Obituaries

RUMBLE, Kathleen (Kay) Aves - Passed away peacefully with her family by her side in the early hours of Friday, February 19, 2016 in her 65th year at Southlake Regional Health Centre in Newmarket. Born in Swindon England on August 26, 1930, she immigrated to Canada with her family in 1946. Cherished and loving wife of Raymond Rumble for 65 years. Loving and devoted mother of Nancy (Douglas) Koohtow, and David (Lynn) Rumble, and a loving grandmother to Matthew and Andrew Rumble. Survived by sister Mary (Russell) Burns and brother John (Marion) Luff. Predeceased by her parents Ernest and Kathleen Luff. The family would like to thank the caring staff at Alexander Muir Retirement Residence, and especially the doctors and nurses at Southlake Hospital during her final days. At her request, cremation has already taken place, and a memorial service will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations to an organization or charity of your choice would be appreciated. Online condolences may be made at www.roadhouseandrose.com.

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In Memoriams | In Memoriams

A commemorative to
(James) Jimmy Purnell
Feb. 26th, 1977 - Jan. 24th, 1996

I place a memorial every year.....
Is it to remind **me** you were here?
Eighteen years!! Feels so long
Though in my heart you're **NEVER** gone.

"You Should be Here"....
"I Drive your Truck"

Loved Beyond Words,
Missed Always
Dad, Mom & Bob
"Jimmy" - 'LIKE A ROCK'

Nothing is really lost as long as you remember it.
- Ally Condie,

Peanuts at the library

BRADFORD TIMES STAFF

Snoopy, Linus, Lucy and Charlie Brown... They were all at the BWG Public Library for the Free Family Saturday, Feb. 20 – a 'Peanuts Party' that included a scavenger hunt, and creative collages, puppets, masks and Snoopy headbands. Kids were inspired by the new Peanuts animated movie, released in October – bringing the beloved cartoon characters to a whole new generation.

Coming up at the Library – March Break!

Mon., March 14: 10 a.m. to noon Drop in crafts for all ages, free. 1:30-3:30 p.m. Drop in Family Movie – Hotel Transylvania 2 (Rated G). Free. 3:30-4:30 p.m. Drop in Xbox Kinect, free for ages 8 and up. Just Dance 4.

March 14 – Decorate a St. Patrick's Day Cake with Bonnie Aguiar of Sweet B's Bakery and Confectionery, for ages 6 to 11. Pre-register; cost is $17 per child – and kids will take home a great 6" cake to share, 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Tues., March 15: 10-11 a.m. Kid's Clay Workshop to make an Animal Clay Treasure Box. Cost is $13 per child, for kids ages 7-12. Pre-register at Borrower Services. 10 a.m. -10:45 am. Sing with Russ, a Concert for kids 1-5 years old. Free, but tickets are required; available at Borrower Services – space is limited. 2-3 p.m. Drop in Lego, for all ages. Free.

March 15 - Writing Workshop with Eve Silver, a White Pine winning Canadian YA author – 1 to 3 p.m. on March 15. Please pre-register by calling 905-775-3328 ext. 6100. At the Bradford Library, 425 Holland St. West.

Weds., March 16: 9 a.m. - noon, Emergency Preparedness for kids presented by BWG Fire & Emergency Services and the County of Simcoe Emergency Management. Video presentations, coloring books and other giveways, a fire extinguisher simulator, and an opportunity to visit a fire truck. All ages – free! 9 a.m. - noon Drop in Crafts for kids. 7-7:30 p.m. Drop in Story Times – stories, songs, rhymes and a craft, for all ages.

March 16 – Ronald McDonald drops by for an interactive storytime, 2 to 3 p.m. For ages 4-7. Free, but tickets are available at Borrower Services, in advance. Space is limited.

Thurs., March 17: 10-11 a.m. Parent-Child Clay Workshop, for kids 7 and under and their parents. Make an Easter Bunny Plate. Cost is $13 per child – pre-register at Borrower Services. 10:30-11:30 a.m. Detective Kids - forensics, for ages 7 to 12. Cost is $5 per child. Space is limited – pre-register at Borrower Services.

March 17 – Comic Juggler Craig Douglas brings his high-flying, death-defying show to the library, 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. For ages 4 and up. Tickets are $6 per person, available in advance at Borrower services.

Fri., March 18: 10 a.m. - Noon. Drop-in Pajama Party for all ages. Crafts, activities, stories, and a cup of hot chocolate. Wear your jammies. Free. 1:30-3:30 p.m. Drop in Family Movie – Goosebumps (Rated PG). Free.

March 17 – Decorate an Easter Cake with Bonnie Aguiar of Sweet B's Bakery and Confectionery, 2-3 p.m. For ages 6 to 11; cost is $17 per child, and each child will take home their own decorated cake. Register at Borrower Services in Advance.

Programs supported by the Friends of the BWG Public Library. Note: Children must be accompanied by an adult at all drop in programs.

MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES

Kids create Peanuts collages, at the Bradford Public Library's Peanuts Party-themed free Family Saturday in Bradford on Saturday.

Museum March Break

Dinosaurs are related to chickens. True or False? Porcupines can throw their quills. True or False? Learn more at ***True or False? The Fun Science Exhibition*** at the Simcoe County Museum, until March 26 – and see what happens when you mix Diet Cola and Mentos! Fun for the family during March Break and beyond, at the museum, 1151 Hwy. 26 north of Barrie. Admission $6 for adults, $5 for seniors and students, $4 for kids.

March Break Maple Fests

The Sugarbush Maple Syrup Festival takes place March 5 through April 3 at Bruce's Mill Conservation Area, 3291 Stouffville Rd., and the Kortright Centre for Conservation, 9550 Pine Valley Drive, just south of Major Mackenzie. Maple syrup demos, wagon rides, live entertainment, and a pancake and maple syrup breakfast, every weekend and during the March Break. Adults $10, children and seniors $6.50, kids 4 and under are free. Parking is $4 at Kortright. For information, see *www.maplesyrupfest.com.* From Friday, March 25 to Monday, March 28, Kortright also offers an Easter Egg Hunt in the forest, with Easter-themed activities all day, in addition to the Sugarbush Maple Syrup Festival.

March 12 and 19, Kortright Centre for Conservation also offers *Maple Syrup by Lamplight*, 7 to 9 p.m. Begins with a guided tour of the sugar bush at twilight, followed by a campfire and fireside treat. Reservations required; $12 for adults ($10 members), $6 for children and seniors ($5 members). RSVP to 416-667-6295.

Naomi Bristow in concert

Internationally-acclaimed country and Gospel singer, "yodeling cowgirl" Naomi Bristow will be at the Bond Head Community Hall on Tuesday, March 1 for a concert, presented by the Bond Head & District Lions Club.

Tickets are $20 per person, for an evening of great music, refreshments and door prizes. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Naomi Bristow hails from Beeton, and has been singing country music and gospel since she was 8 years old. Now 18, she has travelled across Canada and the U.S., receiving numerous music awards in both countries, and has appeared on American TV, on the Shotgun Red Show for 3 seasons, and on Mid West Country.

Bristow has also recorded 7 CDs. Her first was "Cowboy Sweetheart," in 2008; her most recent, released in 2015, is "Yodelin' Christmas." She has recorded in Nashville, with members of the Grand Ole Opry.

Come out, and catch this fresh, young, local talent in an outstanding show!

Tickets are available by calling 705-458-4511, 905-775-5634 or 705-458-9576. Seating is limited. For more information see *www.naomibristow.com*

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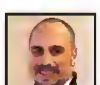

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